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EXTREMAL PROBLEM OF A QUADRATICALLY HYPONORMAL WEIGHTED SHIFT

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Abstract

Let $\hat{\alpha}(x, y) : \sqrt{a}, (\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ be a weight sequence with $1 \leq x \leq y$ and $0 < a < 1$ and let $\mathcal{R} = \{(x, y) : W_{\hat{\alpha}(x, y)} \text{ is quadratically hyponormal and } \|W_{\hat{\alpha}(x, y)}\| = 1\}$. In this note we obtain concret expressions of extremal values of \mathcal{R} with respect to x and y .

1. Introduction and Preliminaries. Let \mathcal{H} be a separable, infinite dimensional, complex Hilbert space and let $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ be the algebra of all bounded linear operators on \mathcal{H} . For $A, B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ let $[A, B] := AB - BA$. We say that an n -tuple $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ of operators in $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ is *hyponormal* if the operator matrix $([T_j^*, T_i])_{i,j=1}^n$ is positive on the direct sum of n copies of \mathcal{H} . For $k \geq 1$ and $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$, T is *k-hyponormal* if (I, T, \dots, T^k) is hyponormal. Recall that $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is *weakly-hyponormal* if $\lambda_1 T_1 + \dots + \lambda_n T_n$ is hyponormal for every $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{C}$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, where \mathbb{C} is the set of complex numbers. An operator T is *weakly k-hyponormal* if (T, \dots, T^k) is weakly hyponormal. In particular, weak 2-hyponormality, often referred to as *quadratic hyponormality*, was discussed in [Cu], [CuF1], and [CuF2]. To detect the quadratical hyponormality of weighted shifts, Fialkow-Curto introduced the concept of positively quadratically hyponormal weighted shifts whose definition appears in [CuF2]. Also it was shown in [JP1] that two notions of quadratical hyponormality and positively quadratical hyponormality are equivalent in the one-step extended weighted shifts $W_{\hat{\alpha}}$ with a tail induced recursively by three numbers $0 < b < c < d$, where $\hat{\alpha} : \sqrt{a}, (\sqrt{b}, \sqrt{c}, \sqrt{d})^\wedge$. Furthermore, the flatness of weighted shifts makes an important role to study the quadratic hyponormality. As one of such models for studying its flatness, in [CuJ] they considered the recursively weighted shift $\hat{\alpha}(x, y) : 1, (1, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ with $1 \leq x \leq y$ and obtain that the set $\mathcal{R} = \{(x, y) : W_{\hat{\alpha}(x, y)} \text{ is quadratically hyponormal}\}$ is a convex set with nonempty exterior and there exist unique maximum values x_M and y_M of x and y such that $\mathcal{R} \cap (\{x_M\} \times \mathbb{R})$ and $\mathcal{R} \cap (\mathbb{R} \times \{y_M\})$ are singletons. And they suggested the following external value problem.

Problem 1.1 ([CuJ, Problem 5.1]). Find a concrete expression for x_M and y_M .

According to Corollary 2.2 below, it is worthwhile to consider only the case of weighted shift W_{α} with $\|W_{\alpha}\| = 1$ to detect the quadratical hyponormality. For a given $a \in (0, 1)$,

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let $\hat{\alpha}(x, y) : \sqrt{a}, (\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ be a weight sequence with $1 \leq x \leq y$. In this note we solve Problem 1.1 for the weighted shift $W_{\hat{\alpha}(x, y)}$.

We now recall [CuF1] that a weighted shift W_α is said to be *recursively generated* if there exist $i \geq 1$ and $\Psi = (\Psi_0, \dots, \Psi_{i-1}) \in \mathbb{C}^i$ such that

$$\gamma_n = \Psi_{i-1}\gamma_{n-1} + \dots + \Psi_0\gamma_{n-i} \quad (n \geq i),$$

where $\gamma_n (n \geq 0)$ is the moment sequence of W_α , i.e., $\gamma_0 := 1$, $\gamma_{n+1} := \alpha_n^2 \gamma_n$ ($n \geq 0$). Furthermore, (2) is equivalent to

$$\alpha_n^2 = \Psi_{i-1} + \frac{\Psi_{i-2}}{\alpha_{n-1}^2} + \dots + \frac{\Psi_0}{\alpha_{n-1}^2 \dots \alpha_{n-i+1}^2} \quad (n \geq i).$$

Given an initial segment of weights $\alpha : \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{2k}$ ($k \geq 0$), there is a canonical procedure to generate a sequence (denote $\hat{\alpha}$) in such a way that $W_{\hat{\alpha}}$ is a recursively generated shift having α as an initial segment of weights (cf. [CuF1]). We now review this procedure in a special case of $k = 1$. Given $\alpha : \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2$ ($0 < \alpha_0 < \alpha_1 < \alpha_2$), let

$$v_0 := \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_0 \\ \gamma_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_1 := \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_2 := \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_2 \\ \gamma_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The vectors v_0 and v_1 are linearly independent in \mathbb{R}^2 , so there exists a unique $\Psi = (\Psi_0, \Psi_1) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $v_2 = \Psi_0 v_0 + \Psi_1 v_1$. In fact,

$$\Psi_0 = -\frac{\alpha_0^2 \alpha_1^2 (\alpha_2^2 - \alpha_1^2)}{\alpha_1^2 - \alpha_0^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \Psi_1 = \frac{\alpha_1^2 (\alpha_2^2 - \alpha_0^2)}{\alpha_1^2 - \alpha_0^2}.$$

Let $\hat{\gamma} := \gamma_n$ ($0 \leq n \leq 1$) and let $\hat{\gamma}_n := \Psi_1 \hat{\gamma}_{n-1} + \Psi_0 \hat{\gamma}_{n-2}$ ($n \geq 2$). Then $\hat{\alpha}_n := \sqrt{\hat{\gamma}_{n+1}/\hat{\gamma}_n}$ ($n \geq 0$) (so that $\hat{\alpha}_n = \alpha_n$ for $0 \leq n \leq 2$) and the coefficients of a recursively generated weighted shift is $\hat{\alpha}_n^2 = \Psi_1 + \Psi_0/\hat{\alpha}_{n-1}^2$ ($n \geq 1$). Such a recursively weight sequence is written by $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)^\wedge$.

This note will be appeared in some other journal as a full version.

2. Striving extremal values. We consider recursively generated weighted shifts of the general form W_α with a weight sequence $\alpha : \sqrt{a}, (\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$ and $0 < a \leq x \leq y$. In special case, we focus on the weighted shift W_α having the norm one which, however, involves without loss of generality.

We begin with the following elementary lemma.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $0 < a \leq b \leq c$. Then $\sqrt{s} \cdot W_{(\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{b}, \sqrt{c})^\wedge} = W_{(\sqrt{sa}, \sqrt{sb}, \sqrt{sc})^\wedge}$ for any $s \in (0, \infty)$.*

The following corollary follows immediately from Lemma 2.1.

Corollary 2.2. *Let $\alpha : \sqrt{\alpha_0}, \sqrt{\alpha_1}, \dots, \sqrt{\alpha_{n-1}}, (\sqrt{\alpha_n}, \sqrt{\alpha_{n+1}}, \sqrt{\alpha_{n+2}})^\wedge$ with $0 < \alpha_{i-1} \leq \alpha_i$ for all $i \geq 1$. Then the unilateral weighted shift W_α has norm $\sqrt{\delta}$ if and only if the shift W'_α with $\alpha' : \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_0}{\delta}}, \dots, \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{n-1}}{\delta}}, (\sqrt{\frac{\alpha_n}{\delta}}, \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{n+1}}{\delta}}, \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{n+2}}{\delta}})^\wedge$ has norm 1.*

Theorem 2.3 Let W_α be a recursively generated weighted shift with $\alpha : \sqrt{a}, (\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y})^\wedge$, $0 < a < x < y \leq 1$, and $\|W_\alpha\| = 1$. Then W_α is quadratically hyponormal if and only if $x \in (a, r_a]$ where r_a is the root of $f(x) = 0$, where $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^4 c_i x^i$ with

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &:= a > 0, \\ c_1 &:= -(a^5 - a^4 - a^3 + 3a^2 + 1) < 0, \\ c_2 &:= a(2a^4 - 3a^3 + a^2 + 3) > 0, \\ c_3 &:= -a^2(a^3 - 2a^2 - a + 3) < 0, \\ c_4 &:= a^3(1 - a) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

(Note that $0 < r_a < 1$.)

Remark 2.4. By a simple computation we have that

$$r_a = -\frac{c_3}{4c_4} - \frac{1}{2}G - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\frac{c_3^2}{2c_4^2} - \frac{4c_2}{3c_4} - A - B - \frac{t}{4G}},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{2^{\frac{1}{3}}q}{3c_4(p + \sqrt{-4q^3 + p^2})^{\frac{1}{3}}}, \\ B &= \frac{(p + \sqrt{-4q^3 + p^2})^{\frac{1}{3}}}{32^{\frac{1}{3}}c_4}, \\ G &= \sqrt{\frac{c_3^2}{4c_4^2} - \frac{2c_2}{3c_4} + A + B}, \\ t &= -\frac{c_3^3}{c_4^3} + \frac{4c_2c_3}{c_4^2} - \frac{8c_1}{c_4}, \\ p &= 2c_2^3 - 9c_1c_2c_3 + 27c_1^2c_4 + 27c_0c_3^2 - 72c_0c_2c_4, \\ q &= c_2^2 - 3c_1c_3 + 12c_0c_4. \end{aligned}$$

Example 2.5. If we consider $a = \frac{1}{2}$, then $f(x) = \frac{1}{16}x^4 - \frac{17}{32}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{51}{32}x + \frac{1}{2}$ and so

$$r_a = \frac{1}{8}(17 - \sqrt{17} - \sqrt{2(41 - \sqrt{17})}).$$

Hence W_α is quadratically hyponormal if and only if $1/2 < x \leq \frac{1}{8}(17 - \sqrt{17} - \sqrt{2(41 - \sqrt{17})})$.

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